

Message Text

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ACTION ITFE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ORM-01 DHA-02 EA-09 SCA-01 HEW-06

SSO-00 /032 W

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O R 171640Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4303

INFO SENIOR CIVIL COORDINATOR CAMP PENDLETON

SENIOR CIVIL COORDINATOR INDIATOWN GAP

SENIOR CIVIL COORDNATOR FORT CHAFFEE

UNCLAS PARIS 26985

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: PROCESSING INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

REF: STATE 231945 AND 235288; PARIS 26435

IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF OCTOBER 16, YVES COFFIN OF
QUAI'S OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE CONVENTIONS AND CONSULAR
AFFAIRS MADE FOLLOWING POINTS IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS
RAISED REFTELS.

1. REFUGEES SPONSORED OUT OF CAMPS INTO US SOCIETY.

FRENCH WILL NOT RPT NOT CONTINUE TO PROCESS SUCH IN-
DIVIDUALS AND ISSUE THEM VISAS, EXCEPT IN CASES IN-
VOLVING EXCEPTIONAL HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS.
FRENCH CONSULS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED ACCORDINGLY. COF-
FIN NOTED (AS EMBASSY ALREADY AWARE) THAT SOME REFU-
GEES HAD SUCCEEDED IN GETTING BOTH US (REFUGEE TRAVEL
DOCUMENT) AND FRENCH (VISAED LAISSER PASSER) DOCUMEN-
TATION. IN EFFORT TO PREVENT THIS, FRENCH HAVE PLACED
ONE-MONTH TIME LIMIT ON VALIDITY OF THEIR DOCUMENTA-
TION (I.E. AUTHORIZATION BY QUAI MUST BE ACTED UPON
WITHIN 30 DAYS, AND VISA ISSUED BY FRENCH CONSUL MUST
BE USED WITHIN 30 DAYS) EMBOFF NOTED THAT EMBASSY HAD
BEEN INFORMED THAT, HENCEFORTH, REFUGEES WOULD BE
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FURNISHED AN I-550 INSTEAD OF THE STANDARD ONE-YEAR

REFUGEE TRAVEL DOCUMENT TO ENABLE THEM TO COME TO FRANCE TO SEEK EMPLOYMENT. UPON RECEIVING EXPLANATION THAT I-550 IS A DOCUMENT PERMITTING RE-PAROLE INTO THE U.S., COFFIN STATED THAT FRENCH WOULD NOT PERMIT HOLDER OF SUCH DOCUMENT TO TAKE UP EMPLOYMENT IN FRANCE SINCE DOCUMENT ITSELF SHOWS INDIVIDUAL IN QUESTION ALREADY ACCEPTED AS REFUGEE IN ANOTHER COUNTRY.

2. HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD. COFFIN CONFIRMED EMBASSY'S IMPRESSION THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN POLICY IN THIS REGARD. THOUGH NOTING THAT EXCEPTIONS ARE MADE ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, HE STATED THAT FRENCH CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THIS IS ONLY METHOD TO AVOID WHOLE FAMILIES BECOMING PUBLIC CHARGES.

3. PRIORITY TO S.E.ASIA. COFFIN ENDED CONVERSATION BY REPEATING NOW FAMILIAR THEME THAT IN FRENCH EYES REFUGEES IN S.E.ASIA MUST TAKE PREFERENCE OVER THOSE TO BE FOUND IN OTHER AREAS.

RUSH

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